

1 **Claims**

2 1. A method of teaching and learning reading using a group of universally connectable
3 blocks and a primer having intelligible reading units composed of reading indicia, wherein each
4 block comprises at least three faces, each of said at least three faces bearing a type of reading
5 indicia, the type of reading indicia being the same on said at least three faces, and each block has
6 a color, said color assigned particularly to the type of reading indicia on the faces,

7 and wherein at least one of the reading indicia in the primer is colored to correspond to
8 the color of the blocks bearing the same type of reading indicia,

9 the method comprising:

10 (a) reading the primer;

11 (b) reading selected reading indicia in the primer;

12 (c) locating blocks having the selected reading indicia;

13 (d) reading an intelligible reading unit comprised of the selected reading
14 indicia in the primer;

15 (e) assembling the selected reading indicia to form the intelligible reading unit
16 by:

17 (i) selecting a first and a second block from said group of universally
18 connectable blocks having the identified reading indicia;

19 (ii) connecting said first block and said second block so that the
20 connected blocks are horizontally adjacent and the selected indicia-bearing
21 faces of each block are visible from the same direction; and

(iii) viewing the color or selected indicia of said connected blocks to determine whether said indicia appear together to form the selected intelligible reading unit.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the reading is aloud.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the reading is silent.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the selected intelligible reading unit is used to answer questions in the primer.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the selected intelligible reading unit is used to complete sentences in the primer.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein step (a) comprises reading a story.

7. A method of teaching and learning reading using a group of universally connectable blocks and a primer, wherein each block comprises at least three faces, each of said at least three faces bearing a type of reading indicia, and wherein each block has a color, said color assigned to the particular type of reading indicia on the faces and

wherein the primer has intelligible reading units comprised of reading indicia, and at least one of the reading indicia is colored to correspond to the color of the blocks bearing the same type of reading indicia,

the method comprising:

(a) reading the primer;

(b) reading selected reading indicia in the primer;

(c) locating a group of blocks having the selected reading indicia;

(d) reading an intelligible reading unit comprised of two or more of the selected reading indicia in the primer;

- 1 (e) assembling the selected reading indicia to form the intelligible reading unit by:
- 2 (i) selecting first and second blocks from said group of blocks, said selecting
- 3 based solely on the reading indicia of the blocks;
- 4 (ii) selecting an indicium-bearing face of said first block and an indicium-
- 5 bearing face of said second block;
- 6 (iii) connecting said first selected block and said second selected block so that
- 7 the selected indicia-bearing faces of each block are visible from the same
- 8 direction;
- 9 (iv) viewing said connected blocks to determine from said indicia or color of
- 10 said connected blocks whether the chosen intelligible reading unit has been
- 11 assembled on said selected indicia-bearing faces and if the chosen intelligible
- 12 reading unit has been assembled, stopping the method;
- 13 (f) if said connected blocks do not form the chosen intelligible reading unit, then
- 14 (1) disconnecting one or more of said blocks and rotating at least one of said
- 15 disconnected blocks so that at least one of the three selected indicia-bearing faces is
- 16 different from the previously selected faces and reconnecting said blocks so that the
- 17 selected indicia-bearing faces of each block are visible from the same direction; or
- 18 (2) disconnecting one or more of said blocks and connecting said disconnected
- 19 blocks in a different order so that the selected indicia-bearing faces of each block are
- 20 visible from the same direction; or
- 21 (3) selecting at least one additional block from the group of universally
- 22 connectable blocks and connecting said additional block to one or more of said

1 previously connected blocks so that the selected indicia-bearing faces of each block are
2 visible from the same direction; or

3 (4) repeating steps (b) through (e) with previously unselected first and second
4 blocks; and

5 (g) repeating step (f) until the chosen intelligible reading unit has been assembled on
6 said selected indicia-bearing faces.